

you with us. Mr. Clerk, back to LB 1031.

CLERK: Mr. President, 1031, as you know, was discussed this morning. The first order of business, I have an amendment from Senator Chambers that I understand is to be withdrawn. The first amendment to the bill, Mr. President, is by Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit is excused until he arrives.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Is anyone authorized to handle the Schmit amendment to 1031? Apparently not, let's go to the next amendment, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Haberman would move to amend the bill. (See AM3024 on page 1387 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, Mr. President, and members of the body, my amendment to 1031 doesn't deal with bricks or stones or airplanes or buildings or anything like this. It deals with children. The amendment asks for \$50,000 for an independent evaluation of the Department of Social Services delivery programs in southwestern Nebraska. It gives the permission of the Executive Board to find the firm or find the person to do the study. I have passed out to all of the members letters from ten attorneys and two judges. These attorneys and these judges deal with the Social Services and the children involved in southwestern Nebraska's social service delivery system. Some of the experts from the 11 letters, one judge states, "I criticize the present social delivery service system for its bureaucracy, overspecialization, inability to respond to human needs, lack of continuity of care, and failure to support its own workers." That is pretty serious. "This policy that they have also ignores the needs and desires of the local communities. In one specific problem, a young boy with alcohol problems was placed in an alcoholic foster home, a boy with an alcohol problem was placed in an alcoholic foster home. Over 100 percent turnover in child protective service workers, 100 percent turnover in workers. Well-trained and loyal employees who have been driven from their jobs. No local foster homes for emergency placement. A lack of administrative response to request for information." Another judge says, "In my opinion, the department has made little effort to adequately deliver services in our small communities." Another judge says, "I am particularly concerned about recruitment, training, supervision of foster parents and